



## **Connecticut Department of Public Health**

### **Testimony Presented Before the Public Health Committee**

**March 7, 2016**

**Commissioner Raul Pino, M.D., M.P.H.**

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### **House Bill 5536: An Act Concerning A Diabetes Action Plan**

The Department of Public Health (DPH) provides the following information regarding House Bill 5536. This bill would require the Department of Public Health, in collaboration with the Commissioner of Social Services and the State Comptroller, to identify and assess the effectiveness of existing diabetes prevention, control and treatment programs; assess the financial impact of diabetes on the state, including the prevalence of the disease and the cost to the state for administering the existing programs; and review the coordination of these programs. In addition, the bill calls for the Commissioner of Public Health, in consultation with the Commissioner of Social Services and State Comptroller, to submit an annual report to the Public Health Committee regarding the development and implementation of a diabetes action plan.

The Department of Public's Health Diabetes Prevention and Control Program currently addresses diabetes. The program's scope of work is dictated by requirements from the funder, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). Among other aspects, the current five year grant, which ends in June 2018, includes deliverables to address the prevention of type 2 diabetes as well as increasing the number of people with diabetes who receive self-management education. Further, the Department routinely makes available information on the burden of diabetes on the agency's website.

Given the Diabetes Prevention and Control Program's commitments to the existing CDC-funded scope of work as described above, the diabetes action plan's provisions as described in the bill cannot be carried out within existing resources. As Governor Malloy stated in his 2016 State of the State Address, we must reset our expectations of what we can afford in light of the new economic reality facing Connecticut. Because an unbudgeted fiscal impact would result from the new responsibilities imposed on the Department regarding the development and implementation of a diabetes action plan, DPH cannot support this bill. The Department will continue our efforts to work within the requirements of the CDC grant to address diabetes prevention and control.

Thank you for considering the Department's views on this bill.

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